



## BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

July 11, 2011

5:30 p.m., 2nd Floor Conference Room  
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

### MINUTES

Members Present: 5

David Turner, Frederick Caldwell, James Tolbert, Janet Selzer, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino

Members Absent: 3

Carlos Bombach, Ralph Cloud, Brian Wickstrom

Member Vacancies: 1

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Stuart Ed, General Services Director, Joel McKnight, General Services Deputy Director, Paula Powell, Sports Manager, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order  
David Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2011  
Motion by James Tolbert to approve minutes as written. Second by Jennifer Barr-Ardovino. Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)  
None
4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter  
Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. She reported July is National Parks & Recreation month and a busy time of the year. She encouraged members to review the numerous events on the Parks and Recreation Department website.
5. Agenda Item #5. Subcommittees:
  - a. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Representative Meeting Report - City Plan Commission Subcommittee for Comprehensive Plan Rewrite  
  
Board Representative Jennifer Barr-Ardovino reviewed the draft goals and policies of urban design relevant to parks.
  - b. Grievance Subcommittee
    1. Discussion and Action:
      - a. Appeal of Suspension of Jose Najera (Summer Youth Baseball 2011) for five (5) years.  
Appellant: Jose Najera (*not present*)

James Tolbert gave a brief summary of the Grievance Subcommittee meeting. Motion by Mr. Tolbert to follow the subcommittee's recommendation to reduce the suspension of Jose Najera from five years to time served. Second by Frederick Caldwell. Motion carried (unanimous).

6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Chair Turner reported that the Grievance Subcommittee had selected a new Chair, replacing Brian Wickstrom, who will be leaving the Board. James Tolbert is the new Chair.

Jennifer Barr-Ardovino volunteered for the position of Alternate on the Grievance Subcommittee. Motion by James Tolbert nominating Jennifer Barr-Ardovino as the alternate. Second by Janet Seltzer. Motion carried (unanimous).

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Information: Addition of Unclassified Workers to aid in clean-up/removal of Freeze damage and Report from the Texas Agrilife Research Extension Center (General Services)

Stuart Ed, General Services Director, reported on land management assessment of the freeze damage and recovery efforts. He stated that General Service staff were assigned to split shift schedules to address weekend issues. The Department plans on hiring 24 seasonal employees with overtime budget savings for remaining part of fiscal year. Seasonal employees will remove dead plants, and provide litter control.

Joel McKnight, General Services Deputy Director, shared a memorandum from Texas Agrilife Research Extension Center which evaluated the affects of the freeze. Discussion ensued on sod availability, tree replacements, the establishment of seed and a tree survey. (Handout)

Chair Turner requested a list of the types of plants lost due to the freeze, to assist master gardeners in recommendations for plants for El Paso.

8. Agenda Item #8. Presentation and Discussion: Ojo De Agua Park

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, presented a PowerPoint of Ojo de Agua Park. Discussion ensued on the boundaries of the PSB property, fencing, access to the park and locations for parking.

9. Agenda Item #9. Presentation and Discussion: Parks and Recreation Department FY12 Budget Request

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the proposed FY12 operating budget and summary report by division. Council will review Parks and Recreation on Wednesday, July 20, 2011, scheduled for 9:00 a.m.

10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

- Introduction – Ed Hersh, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director
- Subcommittee Chair Assignments

11. Adjournment – 6:50 p.m.